

CT DEEP  
79 Elm St  
Hartford, CT 06106    [deep.wqsreview@ct.gov](mailto:deep.wqsreview@ct.gov)

Dec. 16, 2013

Dear DEEP,

In your review of water quality standards, please extend the wastewater disinfection period to include paddle season and opening of fishing season: April through October. The state's rivers serve multiple stakeholders, and it is important when promoting safe recreation and fitness on our waterways that paddlers and anglers are protected from bacterial contamination. Some regularly paddled and fished rivers, including the Quinnipiac in my district, also carry treated effluent even as they provide recreational water trails and stocked and wild fish. The extended wastewater disinfection period will better protect the public health.

In addition, the regulations should be updated to reflect the science of hydrology. Because waters are one hydrologic system and are interconnected, inland wetlands and watercourses should logically fall into the definition of surface waters as (1) they are a surface feature and (2) there is typically a hydrologic connection between inland wetlands and other surface waters. For the same reason, DEEP should consolidate the ground water and surface water antidegradation sections into one section. Both clean water and potential degradation can move from ground water to surface water and in the reverse direction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Mushinsky".

Mary Mushinsky  
State Representative 85<sup>th</sup> district